

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An albumin fusion protein comprising a member selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a Therapeutic ~~protein: X~~ protein X and albumin comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:18;

(b) a Therapeutic ~~protein: X~~ protein X and a fragment or a variant of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18, wherein said fragment or variant has albumin activity;

(c) a Therapeutic ~~protein: X~~ protein X and a fragment or a variant of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18, wherein said fragment or variant has albumin activity, and further wherein said albumin activity is the ability to prolong the shelf life of the Therapeutic ~~protein: X~~ protein X compared to the shelf-life of the Therapeutic ~~protein: X~~ protein X in an unfused state;

(d) a Therapeutic ~~protein: X~~ protein X and a fragment or a variant of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18, wherein said fragment or variant has albumin activity, and further wherein the fragment or variant comprises the amino acid sequence of amino acids 1-387 of SEQ ID NO:18;

(e) a fragment or variant of a Therapeutic ~~protein: X~~ protein X and albumin comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18, wherein said fragment or variant has a biological activity of the Therapeutic ~~protein: X~~ protein X;

(f) a Therapeutic ~~protein: X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, and albumin, or fragment or variant thereof, of (a) to (e), wherein the Therapeutic ~~protein: X~~

protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, is fused to the N-terminus of albumin, or the N-terminus of the fragment or variant of albumin;

(g) a Therapeutic ~~protein:X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, and albumin, or fragment or variant thereof, of (a) to (e), wherein the Therapeutic ~~protein:X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, is fused to the C-terminus of albumin, or the C-terminus of the fragment or variant of albumin;

(h) a Therapeutic ~~protein:X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, and albumin, or fragment or variant thereof, of (a) to (e), wherein the Therapeutic ~~protein:X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, is fused to the N-terminus and C-terminus of albumin, or the N-terminus and the C-terminus of the fragment or variant of albumin;

(i) a Therapeutic ~~protein:X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, and albumin, or fragment or variant thereof, of (a) to (e), which comprises a first Therapeutic ~~protein:X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, and a second Therapeutic ~~protein:X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, wherein said first Therapeutic ~~protein:X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, is different from said second Therapeutic ~~protein:X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof;

(j) a Therapeutic ~~protein:X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, and albumin, or fragment or variant thereof, of (a) to (i), wherein the Therapeutic ~~protein:X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, is separated from the albumin or the fragment or variant of albumin by a linker; and

(k) a Therapeutic ~~protein:X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, and albumin, or fragment or variant thereof, of (a) to (j), wherein the albumin fusion protein has the following formula:

R1-L-R2; R2-L-R1; or R1-L-R2-L-R1,

and further wherein R1 is Therapeutic protein: ~~X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, L is a peptide linker, and R2 is albumin comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18 or a fragment or variant of albumin;

and wherein the Therapeutic protein X of (a) to (k) is selected from at least one of the proteins set forth in Table 1.

2. (Currently Amended) The albumin fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the shelf-life of the albumin fusion protein is greater than the shelf-life of the Therapeutic protein: ~~X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, in an unfused state.

3. (Currently Amended) The albumin fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the in vitro biological activity of the Therapeutic protein: ~~X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, fused to albumin, or fragment or variant thereof, is greater than the in vitro biological activity of the Therapeutic protein: ~~X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, in an unfused state.

4. (Currently Amended) The albumin fusion protein of claim 1, wherein the in vivo biological activity of the Therapeutic protein: ~~X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, fused to albumin, or fragment or variant thereof, is greater than the in vivo biological activity of the Therapeutic protein: ~~X~~ protein X, or fragment or variant thereof, in an unfused state.

5-12. (Cancel)

13. (Currently Amended) The albumin fusion protein of any one of claims ~~4-12~~ 1-4, which is nonglycosylated.

14. (Currently Amended) The albumin fusion protein of any one of claims ~~4-12~~ 1-4, which is expressed in yeast.

15. (Original) The albumin fusion protein of claim 14, wherein the yeast is glycosylation deficient.

16. (Original) The albumin fusion protein of claim 14 wherein the yeast is glycosylation and protease deficient.

17. (Currently Amended) The albumin fusion protein of any one of claims ~~4-12~~ 1-4, which is expressed by a mammalian cell.

18. (Cancel)

19. (Currently Amended) The albumin fusion protein of any one of claims ~~4-12~~ 1-4, wherein the albumin fusion protein further comprises a secretion leader sequence.

20. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising the albumin fusion protein of any one of claims ~~4-12~~ 1-4 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

21-29. (Cancel)